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AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
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МЕЖДУНАРОДНАЯ АМНИСТИЯ
منظمة العفو الدولية
國際特赦組織

URGENT ACTION

PUBLIC **AI Index: ASA 21/92/98**

UA 262/98 **Fear for safety** **6 October 1998**

EAST TIMOR **Marcos Belo, 28**

Amnesty International is concerned for the safety of Marcos Belo, who is being held in incommunicado detention by the Indonesian Armed Forces in the town of Baucau, eastern East Timor.

Marcos Belo was arrested on 30 September 1998, along with three other men, Ernesto Amaral Belo, Carlos Pinto Belo and Agapito Belo, by an Indonesian Air Force unit (Angkatan Udara, AU) from the AU base in Baucau (Lanud Baucau). The arrest took place during a raid on the village of Kaisida, Baucau. Several items were confiscated from the houses raided by the air force, including clothing, knives and documents. It is believed that the men were detained on suspicion of involvement with the underground resistance in East Timor, which contains an armed wing.

The four men were taken to Baucau Air Force Base, where three of them were later released. Marcos Belo, however, remains in custody. He has so far been refused access to legal representation. Amnesty International is concerned that he could be at risk of torture or ill-treatment while being held incommunicado in military custody.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In East Timor, the arbitrary arrest of suspected members of the resistance by the Armed Forces frequently results in both incommunicado detention and "disappearances". Since the resignation of Indonesia's former President Suharto on 21 May 1998, the frequency of such arrests has declined, but arrests are still being carried out by the Indonesian Armed Forces, which has no legal authority to conduct arrests.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send faxes/express/airmail letters in Bahasa Indonesia or English or your own language:

- urging the authorities to grant Marcos Belo immediate, on-going and regular access to legal representatives of his choice, and to his family;
- to ensure that any charges against him are immediately clarified and that steps are taken to guarantee that he is not at risk of torture or ill-treatment.

APPEALS TO:

COMMANDER OF THE ARMED FORCES (ABRI)

General Wiranto
Panglima ABRI
Markas Besar ABRI
Jl. Medan Merdeka Barat No 13
Jakarta Pusat
Indonesia

Faxes: + 62 21 36 1471 / 37 8144/ 35 6404 / 384 5178

Salutation: Dear General Wiranto

Amnesty International, International Secretariat, 1 Easton Street, London WC1X 8DJ, United Kingdom

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COPIES TO:

MILITARY COMMANDER REGION IX/UDAYANA
(covers Bali, Lombok, Nusa Tenggara and
East Timor)
Maj. Gen. Adam Damiri
Pangdam IX/Udayana
Markas Besar KODAM IX/Udayana
Denpasar
Bali
Indonesia

and to diplomatic representatives of Indonesia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 17 November 1998.

"No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment."
Article 5, Universal Declaration of Human Rights

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